रजिस्ट्री सं० डी० 221 REGISTERED No. D. 221

भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY
भाग II—खण्ड 2
PART II—Section 2
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं० 24] नई दिल्ली, बृहस्पतिवार, अप्रैल 19, 1973/चैत्र 29, 1895
No. 24] NEW DELHI, THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 1973/CHAITRA 29, 1895

इस भाग में भिन्न पृष्ठ संख्या दी जाती है जिससे कि यह अलग संकलन के रूप में रखा जा सके।
Separate paging is given to this Part in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation.

LOK SABHA

The following Bill was introduced in Lok Sabha on the 19th April, 1973:—

BILL NO. 21 OF 1973

A Bill to regulate the prices of essential articles of daily consumption and to prevent profiteering in such articles.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Twenty-fourth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Profiteering Prevention and Price Control Act, 1973. Short title.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,— Definition.

(*a*) "essential article" means and includes all types of foodgrains, products derived from foodgrains, pulses, spices, domestic fuel including kerosene, edible oils, vegetable ghee, soap, selected and popular variety of cotton, woollen, silken and polyster cloth; sugar, baby-food, paper and paper products, drugs and medicines, and other articles of daily consumption that may be notified by the Central Government in the Official Gazette.

3. (*1*) The Central Government shall by order, notified in the Official Gazette, from time to time, fix the maximum price for the essential articles which may be charged by a dealer from the customers. Fixation of maximum prices of essential articles.

(*2*) The maximum price to be fixed under sub-section (*1*) may be different in different parts of the country for different articles.

Exhibition of fixed price and details of stocks at shops.

4. Every dealer shall exhibit at a conspicuous place at his shop or place of business the fixed price of essential articles and the details of stocks of such articles held by him in the prescribed form.

Issue of receipt for every article sold.

5. Every dealer shall issue a receipt in the prescribed form for every article sold by him and every purchaser of such article shall ask for a proper receipt.

Penalty.

6. A dealer who asks for more than the fixed price or refuses to sell the essential articles or contravenes any of the provisions of this Act shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to five years or with a fine which shall not be less than five thousand rupees or with both.

Offence to be cognizable.

7. An offence punishable under this Act shall be a cognizable offence.

Police to take immediate action on complaint.

8. On receipt of a complaint against a person for an offence punishable under this Act, the Station House Officer of the area shall register a complaint in the prescribed form and take immediate action to investigate the matter and arrest such person, and the person so arrested shall be produced before a Magistrate within 24 hours of such arrest.

Police action on receipt of credible Information.

9. (1) Any police officer not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector of Police may arrest a person without warrant on receipt of a credible information that such person is concerned with an offence punishable under this Act, and shall proceed to take action under this Act.

(2) The person arrested under sub-section (1) shall be produced before a Magistrate within 24 hours of such arrest.

Order under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to take effect.

10. An order under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 shall have effect notwithstanding the provisions of this Act or rules made hereunder. 10 of 1955.

Power to make rules.

11. The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The rise in prices, particularly in respect of foodgrains and other essential articles of daily consumption, is now to such an extent that both the down-trodden people and the middle-class people are confused as to how they will survive with their families. According to the figures given by the International Labour Organisation at Geneva, between 1963 and 1972, the price index rose by about 95 per cent. in India. That was the highest in the world. To check the rise in prices of essential articles of daily consumption, drastic action on the part of the Government is needed against the profiteers and black-marketeers. Prices of such articles are required to be regulated by Government under an adequate law.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI; K. LAKKAPPA.

The 14th March, 1973.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 11 of the Bill seeks to empower the Central Government to make rules to carry out the purposes of the Act. The delegation of legislative powers is of a normal character.

S. L. SHAKDHER,
Secretary.

PRINTED BY THE MANAGER, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, MINTO ROAD, NEW DELHI AND PUBLISHED BY THE CONTROLLER OF PUBLICATIONS, DELHI, 1973